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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/840,490	04/23/2001	Akira Nakamura	SONYJP 3.0-159	5706

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EXAMINER

THAI, XUAN MARIAN

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2181

DATE MAILED: 11/06/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/840,490

Applicant(s)

NAKAMURA ET AL.

Examiner

Xuan M. Thai

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 April 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 April 2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is in response to communication filed on April 23, 2001. Claims 1-12 are presented for examination.

Drawings

2. Figures 1-9C are prior art and should be designated with legends such as --PRIOR ART--

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Applicant's Admitted Art.

As per claims 1 and 4, Applicant's Admitted Art discloses the electronic equipment and method, comprising: a physical layer circuit having a first transmitter operable to communicate with a child node, and a controller operable to communicate with a parent node, and a controller operable to control said physical layer circuit such that, when said physical layer circuit receives a first signal from said child node, said physical layer circuit changes from a first state to a second state and transmits said first signal to said parent node [discloses by the Applicant's Admitted Art on paragraph 0003]; when said physical layer circuit receives a third signal for canceling said first signal from said child node before receiving a second signal corresponding to said first signal from said parent node, said physical layer circuit transmits said third signal to

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said parent node after receiving said second signal from said parent node [discloses by the Applicant's Admitted Art on paragraph 0003]; and when said physical layer circuit receives said third signal from said parent node, said physical layer circuit changes from said second state to said first state [discloses by the Applicant's Admitted Art on paragraph 0003].

As per claims 2 and 5, wherein the physical layer circuit constitutes a physical layer which conforms to the IEEE 1394 standard [discloses by the Applicant's Admitted Art on paragraph 0002].

As per claims 3 and 6, wherein said first state is an idle state and said second state is a request state [discloses by figures 4, 6A, 6B, 8A & 8B]; and wherein said first signal is a request signal for obtaining a right to use a bus for transmission, said second signal is a grant signal, and said third signal is an idle signal [discloses by figures 4, 5, 6A-6D, 8A & 8B; paragraphs 0016-0023].

As per claims 7 and 10, Applicant's Admitted Art discloses the electronic equipment and method, comprising: a physical layer circuit having a first transmitter operable to communicate with a child node, and a controller operable to communicate with a parent node, and a controller operable to control said physical layer circuit such that, when said physical layer circuit receives a first signal from said child node, said physical layer circuit changes from a first state to a second state and transmits said first signal to said parent node [discloses by the Applicant's Admitted Art on paragraph 0003]; when said physical layer circuit receives a third signal for canceling said first signal from said child node after receiving a second signal corresponding to said first signal from said parent node and changes from said second state to third state, said physical layer circuit transmits said third signal to said parent node after receiving said second

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signal from said parent node [discloses by the Applicant's Admitted Art on paragraph 0003; figures 4, 5, 6A-8B]; and after said physical layer circuit receives said third signal from said parent node, said physical layer circuit changes from said third state to said first state [discloses by the Applicant's Admitted Art on paragraph 0003; figures 4, 5, 8B].

As per claims 8 and 11, wherein the physical layer circuit constitutes a physical layer which conforms to the IEEE 1394 standard [discloses by the Applicant's Admitted Art on paragraph 0002].

As per claims 9 and 12, wherein said first state is an idle state and said second state is a request state [discloses by figures 4, 6A, 6B, 8A & 8B]; and wherein said first signal is a request signal for obtaining a right to use a bus for transmission, said second signal is a grant signal, and said third signal is an idle signal [discloses by figures 4, 5, 6A-6D, 8A & 8B; paragraphs 0016-0023].

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See attached Form PTO-892.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to XUAN M. THAI whose telephone number is 703-308-2064. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Rinehart can be reached on 703-305-4815. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.



XUAN M. THAI
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2181

XMT
November 3, 2003